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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT 1. Kommandatura in Eberswalde
2. New Kommandaturas in Germany
3. Arrest of a Would-Be Defector

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

DATE OF IN

DATE DISTR. 30 Sep 53

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NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Soviet City (Gorodskaya) Kommandatura of Eberswalde had six or seven officers and about 30 EM. [redacted] Units of 4th Gds. Mecz. Army supplied patrols which, together with Kommandatura officers, enforced law and order, investigated traffic accidents, and checked for AWOL's and fraternization.

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2. [redacted] a GOFG order [redacted] was issued at the beginning of 1952 concerning the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army Hq. This order called for the activation of 10 to 12 new Kommandaturas in locations situated along the demarcation line of the US and British zones. Each of the new Kommandaturas was to have 25 officers and EM. The officers to be detached to these Kommandaturas were named in the order, whereas only the number of EM to be provided by each formation of GOFG was mentioned. In addition to the usual supervision of discipline within a garrison town the new Kommandaturas were to:
- Come to intimate terms with the local German population.
 - Collect furniture and belongings left behind by German escapees to the West in central dumps, where it was to be sold to the local people. (One officer later overstepped himself in his duties and bought some furniture. He was court-martialed for this offense, which incident appeared in orders.)

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

ARMY review completed.

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3. The arrest of a political officer [redacted]

[redacted] the unidentified lieutenant colonel, a political officer of an u/i unit of the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army, was apprehended by a Kommandatura patrol in Potsdam in February or March 1953 and was confined to a guard house. He had been dressed in the coverall uniform of an EM of the tank corps and had a German passport. The lieutenant colonel confessed that he and his girl friend had tried to escape to the West. This man was returned to the USSR after a three or four day stay in the Eberswalde Guard House. [redacted]

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